

Thursday 11th

Cloudy and raining all day. I staid all night with Joanna and sis Pelt the first night I have staid from home since January. Em and I made a pair of pants this evening. Heard this evening that Sherman was falling back to Rome. 900 wounded arrived there yesterday but we hear so many reports that we do not know what to believe.

Friday 12th

no rain to day. Good news if true Gen Lee has released all of our prisoners at fort Delaware and they all mounted them selves and came out safe. Gens Wheeler and Jackson have been superceded. I walked up to see a sick child this evening a place that I would not have been caught at if it had not been a sick child. Mrs Pelt went with me. One of Uncle Isacs negroes went to the Yanks night before last.

Saturday 13th

Messers Harden and Hays ate breakfast with us this morning. Mr. Hays is thrashing our wheat to day several hands helping. Heard to day that the Yankees charged our breastworks at Atlanta and our troops killed about 10 to one. No rain to day, had a nice watermelon this evening.

Sunday 14th

Another week has begun and no one can tell what changes we may have to pass through before it is concluded. Alfs wife sent us nice basket of peaches this morning. No news to day.

Monday 15th 1864

Mr. Hays finished thrashing our wheat to day. Six Yankie deserters passed just before noon. Mrs. King and daughter dined with us and then crossed the river. Gave Queen (Perhaps a slave.) to Ida King Made 135 bushels of wheat, some of it is injured by the rain. Had a hard shower of rain to day.

Tuesday 16th

A scout of Yankees passed by at eleven oclock a few of them stoped to get some water. Uncle Isacs negro boy George was with them. He was leading his masters mule that they had taken.

Wednesday 17th

Saw eight confederates this morning crossed at our fery. Hauled some of our wheat home to day.

Thursday 18th

Jonas sheared the lambs to day. Hauled our chaff and some straw home. Mary and I went over to see Mrs Mitchal found her

the river. We came home and found that a large scout had passed down. They camped at Osburns.

Friday 19th

Mrs Pelt is moving to day have taken their stock and one load. I made a pair of pants for Lee to day. It is raining to night.

Saturday 20th

Jonas came to the window this morning before I got up and called me. He said that he had just found a dead Yank in the road just this side of Uncle Isacs killed by some of our scouts. In a short time Prince came down saying that our scouts accused Jonas of taking the pistol and pocket book from the Yankie and if he did not produce both they would shoot him. Em and I walked up there to see if we could see them and if we could not leave word with uncle Isac that he did not have the pistol or pocket book. We did not see any of them but saw the dead man, but we saw some of them to night and they did not talk any thing like killing him. The scout passed by but none of them stoped but two.

Sunday 21st

This is the day in Cours for preaching but it rained nearly all day so that no one could go out. No news to day.

Monday 22nd

Cloudy this morning but no rain. The Yankies came charging up just before dinner saying that they would burn the house because that Yankie was killed up the road. The colonel came in making

great threats about burning the house if we did not quit harboring rebles (which we do not do) and threatened to send us south if we did not give all the information we could on our scouts, some thing that they will never make me do. They took a good many of our chickens and the dinner out of the pot. The Misses Noble ran into them below here and they came up and stoped to get shut of them. They are as strong rebs as we are or appear to be. They staid about an hour. Mary, Em and Sis went to see if they burned uncle Isacs house. They did not.

Tuesday 23rd

This has been a very quiet day no disturbance of any kind. Misses Vann and Walker called at the gate this evening talked a good while and left. The topic of conversation as usual about the northern vandals.

Wednesday 24th

No Yankies again to day. Mrs Hicks spent last night with us. She left this morning going up the road to see what had become of her husband the Yanks took up to Rome: she met him and they have gone back. Mrs Pelt and Joanna spent the day with us she moved last Saturday.

Thursday 25th

I came over to Mr Mitchels this afternoon along with Em. We are gong to spend the night with them found cousin Lawson here and a cousin of theirs a Mr White. Mr White is a very intelligent man though not very handsome.

Friday 26th

Lieut Black and Mr Estlinger called on me this morning to get Jonas to shoe horses for them a couple of days, wanted a strike allso but I could not furnish one. Came home just at ten oclock. Had a warm walk staid at the river a long time before we could make any one heare. Heard to night that cousin James Hartt came to Ms after we left. He is wounded again poore fellow he has bad luck.

Saturday 27th

Have had pleanty of compnay to day Mrs Brown and son Mr Tompson Mr Alexander and Mrs Knox have all been here to day. Mrs. Knox got her colt that the Yanks took from her on the fourth of June. Mr McCombs came by moving and had it along. She paid him \$25 for his care of it. Made some cider this morning which was very good. I sent Mr Brown a plug of tobacco.

Sunday 28th

No church to day. Looked for Jim Hartt all the morning but He did not come til evening and Alie Smith and his son came with him. He is wounded in the right arm a flesh wound. It has been nearly a year since I saw him before. He did not stay all night for fear of the Yanks catching him.

Monday Aug 29th

I saw 14 confederate scouts this morning. Talked to some of them. Nothing else of interest I believe. To day Mrs W. Pelt and son called at the gate this evening.

Tuesday 30th

Looked for Mrs Thompson all the morning but she did not make her apperance til evening. She had a great deal to talk about as she had not seen us since March; saw two rebels pass just as she came.

Wednesday 31st

Two soldiers came this morning and cursed and drove old uncle Moses down to the river to find the flat and set them across, but as good luck would have it one side of the flat was under water and they had to go farther down the river. They would not believe us that the flat was sunk. Emma Jim Mollie and myself went down to the river this evening found Mrs Mitchel there with two letters one for Sallie and one for Mary from Laura and Lucy Tutt. Bad news from Mobile all the forts have surrendered and troops are being sent there from the front. Salt has risen to a dollar per pound. Fighting at the front last friday but heard no particulars.

Thursday Sept 1st

Heard this morning that the Yanks were down at Coosa yesterday cuting up considerably. I am very thankful that they did not come this far. They drove off a good many cattle. Mrs Thompson left this morning for home. The Yankies were at her

house yesterday. Thompson took dinner with us to day. Saw a federal deserter. Saw our little friend Tilman Parks with two other soldiers. Uncle James Hartt got a pass to come through Rome to day. He came down to see his son. He gave us about three lbs. of coffee. My darling friend Maggie Bale came to see us this evening. Mr Mitchel and Mrs Pelt allso. Have not seen Maggie since her husband was buried til now. she has been down the country. She is the same affectionate Maggie of old. Mr. Hartt gave us a Yankie paper and Mr Mitchel brought us two confederate papers.

Friday Sept 2nd

Maggie left this morning. Mary Emma and Sallie went as far as Mrs Deans with her and returned this evening. Heard good news to night that our troops had driven Sherman on this side of the Chatahoocha river and that her had burned the bridge after him but our loss was heavy as well as theirs. They spiked their siege guns and left them.

Saturday 3rd

Saw some confederates this morning. They had some cattle they had taken from a man who was going to the Yankies. Mr Shenault was along. He gave me a Yank paper of the 8 of Aug. it contains nothing but lies. Mary and I walked up to Mrs Knox's this evening, called a few minutes at Mr Alexander's found Mrs Comer there. A very hard rain came on while we were at Mrs Knoxs, and it was late before we could get home. Heard that Mr Estman one of our Kentucky scouts is in all were well when he left. Made some cider this evening. No more news.

Sunday 4th

An other sabbath has come and the enemy still here, but I hope and pray that they will not be here many more Sabbaths. Mr Shenault called to get a paper this morning before we got dressed. Uncle Isac and Jane came this morning all went to prayer meeting except my self. James Hartt came while they were gone, but did not stay long. All came back from church before he left. Uncle and Jane spent the after noon with us. Sallie has gone home with them. I forgot to mention on Thursday that Maggie brought us an extract taken from a Yankie paper stating the they had hung cousin Lee Cathey for bushwacking in Nashville pocre fellow I hope he is at rest. (I have that little scrap of paper.)

Monday Sept 5th/64

Jonas brought us some nice peaches and apples this morning. I sent him over to shoe horses for Mr. Mitchel to day. Had a hard rain this evening. Got four sides of leather home from the tan yard this evening about twenty pounds. No news to day.

Tuesday 6th

Our little soldier friend Tilman Parks called this morning. The Yankies came down on the other side to day as far as Mr. Camps. Our scouts fought them and killed one man and wounded some others, one of ours got a slight wound. Two scouts claiming to be rebels called this evening enquiring about the Yanks. I do not know who they were.

Wednesday 7th

Old Mrs Carr died this morning Jonas has gone over to shoe horses for Lieut Black this evening. Had to quit shearing sheep to go. No news from the front. Cloudy this morning but no rain.

Thursday 8th

Jonas has gone to shoe horses again to day. Talked to some rebels to day. The news is not very good from the front. Sherman has got out supplies cut off. has three corpses in our rear.

Friday 9th

The news is this morning that Atlanta has fallen, can hear nothing reliable about it do not know whether it is so or not. I spun some sewing thread and died it to day.

Saturday 10th

Nothing more from Atlanta. I wish that I could hear the truth about it. Scalded and scoured to day. I fixed my hat and net this evening.

Sunday 11th

Preaching at prospect but none of us went. Staid at home all day. Thad Knox came down this evening. The Yanks have Atlanta sure enough. Gen Hood has fallen back to Jonesborough.

Monday Sept 12th/64

Alex Smith came this morning to get help to dig a grave for Mr. Henelys babe. Mary and Em went to the burial. Mr Henley came home with them and staid to dinner. I cut some of our indigo and put it to soak this morning.

Tuesday 13th

Miss Finch called on us this morning did not stay long. Mr. Estlinger called this evening staid a good while eating peaches no news from the front.

Wednesday 14th

Rung out some indigo to day. I do not know what success we will have in making it. I never made any before. Em and I walked up by the molasses mill and on to Mr Alexanders this evening. saw the little baby it is a sweet looking boy. Mrs Knoxs Lou went to the Yanks this morning.

Thursday 15th

Em and I walked up to see Mrs Thompson this morning staid an hour and came home. Saw Mr. Gatewood and his command this evening. (Mr Gatewood's command was a band of irregulars and Gatewood was a notorious bushwhacker who never joined the army, but vowed to kill Yankees to avenge his father. He came from Tennessee, had long flaming red hair which he put under his cap to keep from being recognized and was not above raiding and terrorizing the citizens of Floyd county. You can read about him in the Battey book on pages 201 and 205. He was a

frequent visitor to the Catheys and apparently treated the girls with kindness for they talked with him and fed him often.) The supposition is that gen Clanton will surprise Rome tomorrow. Emma and Sis went over to Aunt Ann's this evening found her well.

Friday 16th

Had a fright last night four men came here called Jonas out and drew their six shooters on him and said that they would shoot him if he did not produce a six shooter they said he had. We went out and begged him off. About two o'clock in the night Capt Gatewood fell back to the Gap and placed his pickets here and told us they did not know but what the Yanks would attack them before morning. Messrs Grifits and Reede talked to us a good while. The captain and four others ate breakfast here and three ate dinner. The Yanks came down as far as Coosa in the night and returned about day light. Our soldiers have fallen back again beyond the gap to feed. It looks like old times to see so many of our soldiers about us.

Saturday 17th

A scout went up the road this morning returned soon after said that the Yankies had been down to Coosa again just before day. We made some molasses to day. They are very nice. I walked up to the church when they made them met Maggie and Mrs Bale there and they came home with us to spend the night.

morning and said that gen Wheeler was in here some where. There is a move of some kind on hand we do not know what it is. Mrs. Pelt came this evening she is going to stay all night.

Monday 19th

Nothing of interest to day all quiet yes there was a regiment of our soldiers have gone up the Summerville road but did not pass here. I have not been very well to day a very uneasy disagreeable feeling in my stomach and throat.

Tuesday 20th

Not very well this morning. Warped a web this evening. No news. The negroes all helping to make Mrs Knox's molasses. Yankies came within a mile of us last night.

Wednesday 21st

Rained nearly all day very hard in the morning. every thing very quiet and dull. No news of any kind.

Thursday 22nd

Mr. Hayes called this morning to get Jonas to go and work for him in the shop. Rained again this evening. I have been amusing myself for the last few days reading Petersons old magazines fiend some very interesting pieces although I have read them

Friday 23rd

Rained nearly all day. Jonas came home this morning. Heard over there that cousin Isac McArver was dead also that there was an armistice of 30 days down at the front.

Saturday 24th

More rain this morning. Nothing of interest transpired to day. Em and Maggie came home after dark walked all the way. The Yanks were on the other side of the river yesterday.

Sunday 25th

No church to day. Walked up to the grave yard in the evening with Maggie from there we went to Mr Alexanders, found him in bed blind and suffering a great deal with his eye. Came home saw some confederates pass two called in the morning. Mr. Estlinger and an other one, Thompson called this evening.

Monday 26th

Beamed a web and drew it through the harness. Messers Mitchel and Vann at the river this morning to attend to some business. Heard any amount of good news of it will prove true.

Tuesday 27th

Drew my web through the reed and wove three yards and a third. Maggie and Sis have gone visiting.

Wednesday 28th

Rained to day. Wove three yards. Mrs Pelt came just before noon staid till four oclock. Just after she left the Yanks passed along about 150 three or four stoped. They are the first we have seen in five weeks. Emma read a letter from cousin Frank last Monday.

Thursday 29th

The Yanks came to day staid here a long time. Did us no damage, but will be back to morrow after a wagon load of things that belongs to a family they were moving up to Rome. I expect that we will suffer them. Saw two rebles.

Friday 30th

Saw two rebles to day. The Yanks did not come to day as we expected Misses Shropshire and White (These are the women Gatewood robbed and plundered in September - see Battey page 202 - after which he showed up on Aunt Nanny's doorstep!) came this evening. Came down to the meeting. Cousin Bob came home to night called here and ate supper. gen Wheeler's command is passing up Chatoga vally, going up the railroad some where.

Saturday 1st Oct/64

No Yanks still. Ali went to church except myself crotched cousin Lawson a pair of gloves yesterday and to day. Emma White, Minnie Shropshire Maggie Bale, and Emma all spent the evening at Mr Mitchels. Aunt Lou came home with them. Saw two confederates. There is only eight Ladies here to night two

of them widows and all on the carpet. (The 1860s slang for having one's period!)

Sunday Oct 2nd

Communion day at Sardis. All went except me and Grand ma. Mr Withers stoped for dinner. Came on a hard rain just after dinner and continued til late in the evening. Mr. Crawford came after the rain and is going to spend the night here.

Monday Oct 3rd/64

All of our company have left us. Maggie has gone home with Emma and Minnie to stay for two weeks. All started in the rain. Capt Gatewood and an other man called at the gate and talked a while this morning. Said they tore up the rail road and captured three trains last week. Saw several confederates this evening a scout from gen Ross's brigade.

Tuesday 4th

Our scouts stood picket line here last night. The Yanks came down as far as Coosa and camped there. One of our men was bare headed and I gave him a hat of brothers. Mr. Estlinger and an other soldier ate dinner with us. More rain to day. It keeps so wet that I cannot weave. I heard to day that gen Wheeler is going down to Cedarbluff to cross the river on his way to the front.

Wednesday 5th of Oct 1864

A little rain to day. I hear that we have Atlanta surrounded if that be true I think it will not be long till we have the Yanks run out of the state. Oh Lord help us to drive them back and that soon. I pray that the time may soon come when we can have a mail so that we can get something to read and heare from our friends once again.

Thursday 6th

Wove some to day, very damp, could not get along very well.

Friday 7th

Very windy to day thread breaks very badly could not get along weaving. Nothing of interest.

Saturday 8th

Very windy and rather cold wove about three yds to day.

Sunday 9th

Went up to see Mr. Alexander this evening he has lost his eye sight and suffers a great deal. Heard up there that Hoods army was going to cross the river at Quins fery. Came home. After supper Sam Smith came by and said that the army was crossing and would all cross tonight. We all went up there after night to see them as the moon was shining brightly. Only one division of infantry crossed and the cavalry. Cousin Jimmy Cathey and a Mr Barger came on to stay all night. After we got home to bed about two oclock. Saw a good many of our friends at the river.

Monday 10th

This a day long to remembered by all in this part of the confederacy. After breakfast we accompanied cousin Jimmy and Mr Aldcock to the river. There we staid all day seeing our army pass. Saw about 40,000 cross the river on the pontoon bridge. We saw cousin Boon at the river Cousins James Hartt Langdon and John Acock Henry Cathey W Oliver G McGaw and several other strangers came down to supper and some to stay all night. I talked all day while at the river met a good many friends formed some acquaintances. Saw nearly all the big generals Gens Hood Lee Cheetam Stewart and many others, some of them very looking. (Aunt Nanny was present here when Hood was retreating after the battle of Atlanta. He never gave up and fought whenever and wherever. It must have been quite a sight.)

Tuesday 11th

All of our friends left this morning. Soldiers have been passing all day had to go below to cross the river the pontoon was taken up last night. A Mr McArver came over to see if we were related. He is my Mothers first cousin. Mr Mitchell came with him. A man came down this evening to get three couriers fed here. We had to take them in. Gen Hoods headquarters this evening is on the armercha two miles from here.

Wednesday 13th

A regiment of cavalry passed this morning. They blockaded Robinsons gap. I spent the evening at the molasses mill seeing to boiling down the molasses came home just before night. Several soldiers called to stay all night but did not take them in.

Thursday 13th

About 10 oclock last night we were aroused from our slumbers to open the doors for the wounded eight in number, some of them wounded badly saw one surgical operation performed a ball was taken from a mans foot. Em and I waited up on them all night bathing their wounds and giving them water. Had breakfast prepared for them and they all left about seven oclock. Not long after they left we heard cannon, and in a short time the stampead commenced. It was eleven oclock when they all got by. It was Col Harisons Brigade of Texans and a brigade of Alabamians commanded by Col Harison. The Yanks captured their batery six miles above us and routed our men. A few of them stoped and formed several times. They fought them over in the mill and the last rally they made was just in front of our house. They fired several rounds and them fell back in the gap. The yanks came on this far staid 3/4 of an hour and went back. One corps of infantry and a division of Cavalry came out against one division of our cavalry thinking that it was the advance of gen Hoods army. gen Sherman commanded in person. (I rather doubt this, but who knows, he was in the area and did chase Hood's army into Alabama.) The yanks took every thing they could find to eat from us and our old blind horse. The rebels came back in the evening and some of them are going to stand picket here to night. I met up with two of brothers Ark friends. Capt Leak and another gentleman name not known. Gave him Jerys coat as he had lost his in the stampead.

Friday 14th

The rebels are in camp at Sardis church. Killed several of our hogs last night. They blockaded the Gap to day. Some of the soldiers have been here all day. Sent up a flag of truce to find out some thing about our killed and wounded but they found no Yanks and heard nothing about them. Our men keep coming in those whome we supposed even captured.

Saturday 15th

Our troops are using all of our corn and fodder. I got two certified accounts for corn and fodder to day. Soldiers passing in all the time. Mr Lacy of 11th Texas ate dinner with us to day. I do not do anything but talk to the soldiers. They keep Em and I busy.

Sunday Oct 16th/64

Maggie Bale came this morning Mr Crawford brought her down as far as Mrs Knox's last night. All went to church to day except Grand Ma and I. Mr White and MR Buck Hartt came with them to dinner. Maggie left us this evening for home.

Em and I went as far as Mr Comer's with her. Mr Johnson walked back home with us. Billy Parks came while we were gone and brought us a mule. He is such a nice little fellow and very inteligent. Captain Leek and Dr Wilks called on us to night. Dr made arrangements to go chestnut hunting to morrow. Capt said he could not leave his co.

Monday 17th

A couple of soldiers came with some shirts to make. Dr Wilks and Willingham came to go chestnut hunting. All the girls went except myself. One of the soldiers gave me some. Uncle Isac and Mr Harden came in and staid for a short time. They brought me a certified account for the hogs the soldiers had killed for us calling for \$500.00 five hundred dollars.

Tuesday 18th

The pickets were moved above us last night. They raised an alarm this morning that the Yanks were coming. A regiment came as far as Coosa and fell back to Rome. A scout of rebels went up after one of their wounded and brought him by here to day. He looked very pale, carried him by on a litter. News came this evening that one of our corps were coming down by the way of Galesville, and that gen Wheeler was skirmishing with the enemy at Summersville. This division are expecting orders to move to night. Dr Wilks and Capt Leek came down to give us a parting call.

Wednesday 19th

Our troops all left last night. Very still all day very little passing. I walked up to the church this evening. Heard while there that old Mr Brown was buried yesterday. I wish I had known that it was two days ago. I wrote to his son the day he died that he was still living, and I do not know when I will have the opportunity of writing again. A scout of four soldiers went up as far as Coosa this evening. They could not find out any thing about the movements of the enemy. The man that I made the shirt for was one of them.

Thursday 20th

Nothing of interest has transpired to day. I wove three yards. Have heard nothing definit from our army.

Friday 21st

A squad of Yankies about 20 in number passed this morning before day. We supposed them to be a courier guard. In the after noon an other squad passed. I wove about three yards more to day. Read some in Cyrills a novel given to me by Capt Leak. I find it very interesting.

Saturday 22nd

Have not wove any to day. Finished reading my book. I liked it very well but it ends sadly. Several squads of Yanks have passed to day. They cut the blockade out of the gap this morning. Made the negroes help them. Can scarcely look out to day but what we see some of the hateful things.

Sunday 23rd

Have seen nothing but Yanks and wagons all day. Seven officers ate breakfast here two gens one col and some capt. Gen Fulton gave us two guards to stay til the wagon train passed. They could only guard the house and yard. The Yanks killed four sheep one calf. Allso took many chickens. The worst of it is that we have it all to go over again in a day or two.

Monday 24th

Nothing again but Yanks all day and a wagon train in the evening. Killed all of our sheep drove off all of our cattle and finished our chickens. (Sherman's troops chased Hood's army right past the Cathey farm and went as far as Galesville, Alabama where they turned back because the decision had been made to march to the sea. Hood retreated into Tennessee and as for Sherman, the rest, as they say, is history!)

Tuesday 25th

To day the same as yesterday. Our ox came back last night.

Wednesday 26th

Still the same see nor heare any thing except Yanks. Two of our cows came back to day but I know not how long we will get to keep them.

Thursday 27th

This has been a quiet day in comparison with the last four. Yanks passing all the time but few in number one batery passed up.

Friday Oct 28th

To day pritty much the same as yesterday till late in the evening a wagon train passed up. Had a hard rain last night it settled the dust which had gotten to be very thick owing to so much travel on the road.

Saturday 29th

An other trying day. The 14th A C passed up to Rome today. It was late in the evening before they all got by commenced soon in the morning. They did not damage us any for all had been taken before except what is in the house. They tell us they were the last to leave Galesville. I suppose we'll not see many more.

Sunday 30th

We were sadly disapointed in thinking we would see no more Yanks. a division of cavalry passed up and some of the worst we have seen three or four of them broke on to our house and striped our beads, did not but one of them take any thing the others got ashamed and went out. After that some of the men were kind enough to stay and guard us. About two hours after they all passed up our eyes were gladdened with the sight of some rebles. When I saw them I was so glad I could not keep from crying.

Monday 31

Not a Yank have we seen to day. I am so thankful for the privacy of spending one day without being molested by any of them. I think they are on the other side of the river to day. About noon we saw a smoke raising in the direction of Mr Thomas's mill like some building was burning. Sallie and I gathered two baskets of walnuts.

Tuesday Novem 1st

No Yanks to day but a company of rebles. Capt Jay and his co called at the gate several of our friends were with him. Oh it is such a treat to us to see confederat soldiers after seeing so many of the enemy. We do not know how to appreciate them untill we have been with the enemy. An old man has stoped to spend the night with us. We are not in the habit of taking in any one to stay but he looks old and very feble. It is cloudy this evening with the apperance of rain.

Wednesday 2nd 1864

Rained all night las night and all day to day. Saw some of our soldiers. John Smyre Joe Harden M Bolt came in to see us. Can heare nothing definite about the movement of the enemy. Cant learn which way they are moving. Heard to day today that Caroline Haw has married a Yankee Col.

Thursday 3rd

Capt Jay and company passed up to day. Still raining and cold. Sent Alf up the road to see if he could find a cow. He came back with out any.

Friday Novem 4th

Had some sleat to ;day mixed with rain. No news that can be relied on. Every one we see from the direction of Rome says the enemy are leaving but still they do not get away. Mr Mitchel came over this evening to see us. Ginnie and Adda have come to spend the night.